

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.     A bearing assembly for a piston rod of a piston cylinder unit, said  
2 bearing assembly comprising:  
3               a counter-bearing of a component to be carried by the piston rod, said  
4 counter bearing comprising a bearing flange having a top side and a bottom side;  
5               a bearing body mounting for mounting on the piston rod, said mounting  
6 supporting said flange axially on both sides;  
7               a slide bearing between said top side and said bearing body mounting;  
8               a slide bearing between said bottom side and said bearing body mounting;  
9               an axially movable backing disk carrying one of said slide bearings; and  
10              a spring which preloads said slide bearings toward the bearing body  
11 mounting.
- 1           2.     A bearing assembly as in claim 1 wherein said bearing body  
2 mounting comprises a sleeve section which defines a minimum distance between said  
3 slide bearings.
- 1           3.     A bearing assembly as in claim 1 wherein said spring is arranged  
2 axially outside of said slide bearings.
- 1           4.     A bearing assembly as in claim 1 wherein said spring is arranged  
2 axially inside of said slide bearings.

1                   5.     A bearing assembly as in claim 1 wherein said bearing body  
2     mounting comprises an upper bearing disk and a lower bearing disk, said slide bearing  
3     being arranged axially between said bearing disks.

1                   6.     A bearing assembly as in claim 5, wherein one of said bearing  
2     disks has a threaded sleeve section which engages a thread of the other bearing disk  
3     so that the relative axial position of the two bearing disks is adjustable.

1                   7.     A bearing assembly as in claim 1 further comprising a bearing body  
2     received radially inside of said bearing flange for centering said flange radially with  
3     respect to said piston rod.

1                   8.     A bearing assembly as in claim 7 wherein said bearing body is  
2     integrally formed with one of said slide bearings.

1                   9.     A bearing assembly as in claim 1 wherein said counter-bearing  
2     comprises an upper shell and a lower shell, which form respective upper and lower  
3     sides of said flange, and an elastomer body arranged between said shells, said  
4     elastomer body loading said sides axially toward said slide bearings.